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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Korea

DATE DISTR. 15 March 1951

SUBJECT Communist Civil and Military Activities

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1. Beginning in mid-February laborers of both sexes, including travelers and local residents, were impressed for the construction of an airstrip at Tongchang-ni (125-34, 38-36).
2. In late March, a battalion of ROK captives and sympathizers, who had been reindoc-
trinated at Suncheon (125-56, 39-25), were stationed at Kuwol-san (126-15,
38-30) to combat ROK guerrillas. They were armed with mortars and
individual small arms. Their morale is low and their officers have
been alerted to prevent desertions.
3. The North Korean 36 Division at Songhwa (125-08, 38-22), the 19 Division
at Chaeryong (125-37, 38-24) and an unidentified division at Sinchon
(125-30, 38-21) are charged with the security of Hwanghae Province.
Elements of these troops were trained for four months in China and arrived
at Kaechon (125-54, 39-42) on foot in early February. No ammunition has
been issued since the initial 100 rounds per man which were issued at
Kaechon.
4. In late March 10,000 North Korean troops, 5,000 of whom were armed, were
shifted to the Kaesong area to counter a possible ROK landing.
5. In February and March 51,000 bushels of hulled grain confiscated in the
Songhwa area were removed to Chonggok Temple (125-14, 38-29) where
milling equipment was installed for processing. The building was guarded
by one North Korean platoon. The processed grain is issued to North
Korean troops in the area.
6. In P'yongyang most of the shops are open. Rice costs 1,000 North Korean
won per mal as against 600 won in rural areas. The pre-war program of military
conscription is being continued. There is intensive labor mobilization
for work in the monazite mines and to overhaul military equipment.
7. Travel in South Pyongan requires both a temporary military certificate
(replacing the former military certificate) and a trip ticket issued by
the local People's Committee.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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 8. Approximately half the supplies sent to Communist front line troops are reaching the troops. The rest is destroyed by  bombings.

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